

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)
Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate the)
Implementation of Feed-in Tariffs.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 2008-0273

PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

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**ALEXANDER & BALDWIN, INC. through its division
HAWAIIAN COMMERCIAL & SUGAR COMPANY'S RESPONSES TO
INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM THE COMMISSION'S CONSULTANT, THE
NATIONAL REGULATORY RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

AND

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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HAWAIIAN COMMERCIAL & SUGAR COMPANY'S
RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM
THE COMMISSION'S CONSULTANT,
THE NATIONAL REGULATORY RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Pursuant to the Commission's Letter to the Parties, dated March 2, 2009, Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., through its division Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company hereby submits the following Responses to Information Requests from the Commission's consultant, the National Regulatory Research Institute

Respectfully submitted.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, March 16, 2009.



SANDRA-ANN Y.H. WONG
Attorney for Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.
through its division Hawaiian Commercial
& Sugar Company

Question 36. Are future biomass facilities likely to be dispatchable and curtailable resources? Would sub-1MW biomass facilities, such as anaerobic digesters, likely be dispatchable and curtailable?

Response:

Future biomass to energy facilities can be dispatchable and if necessary curtailed due to the unique ability for biomass fuel (solid, liquid, and gas) to be stored until it is ready to use. For sub-1MW biomass facilities, such as anaerobic digesters that can convert biomass waste into methane gas, if the facility has a consistent supply of biomass waste, then the biomass facility can be dispatchable and curtailable. In the case of landfill gas where there is a consistent supply of methane gas, the facility can definitely be a dispatchable and curtailable source of energy.

Question 37. With the support of a [sic] FiT, based on Hawaii's forest and agricultural resources, to what extent in aggregate MWs and where would developers likely build additional biomass generators?

Response:

Developers would likely build additional biomass generators from forest resources on the Island of Hawaii, specifically the Waiakea Timber Management Area. Developers would likely build additional biomass generators from agricultural resources on the island of Maui and Kauai. HC&S' response is based on the report "Biomass and Bioenergy Resource Assessment" produced by the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, School of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology, University of Hawaii in 2002. This report assessed the utilized and unutilized biomass resources in the State. According to the report, the greatest concentration of unutilized agricultural biomass was located on the islands of Maui and Kauai primarily from the sugar cane industry. The report also indicated that the island of Hawaii has the largest area of commercial timber plantations with the largest concentration in the Waiakea Timber Management Area and the Hamukua Coast.

Each of these biomass resources would have to be evaluated individually to determine MWs available for sale after meeting internal power requirements for biomass processing and energy conversion.

Question 38. If included in an FiT, what is the potential for sub 1-MW biomass systems in Hawaii? Specifically, describe where such generators would likely be located, their potential number and aggregate capacity, and the likely feedstocks.

Response:

HC&S is currently engaged in producing biomass-based electricity and selling excess power to the MECO Maui island grid in capacities much larger than 1 MW. Thus, HC&S is not in a position to speculate as to the potential for sub 1-MW biomass systems regarding numbers, aggregate capacity, and likely feedstocks. However, the report referred to in Response to Question 37 did provide information on aggregate amounts of biomass feedstocks that could potentially be used for biomass energy conversion.

Question 39. On a \$/MW basis, what interconnection costs have you experienced or do you anticipate for biomass projects in Hawaii? Please describe how interconnection costs vary by location and project size.

Response:

HC&S has no recent experience or information on what interconnection costs would be with the electric utility. The current interconnection that HC&S has with MECO has been in existence for many years.

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The foregoing Responses to Information Requests were served on the date of filing by
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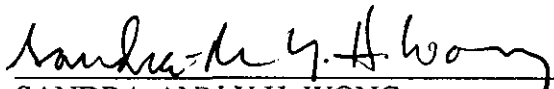
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